Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 03874 280746Z ACTION EA-09

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O 280615Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0058

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 3874

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, ID

SUBJECT: WIDJOJO'S VISIT TO U.S.

REF: STATE 066918

- 1. IDEA OF WIDJOJO'S VISIT TO U.S. IN APRIL HAS BEEN BASICALLY GENERATED BY AMBASSADOR RUSMIN. IT IS SUPPORTED BY FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK. WIDJOJO HIMSELF IS INTERESTED IN MEETING U.S. OFFICIALS, AND PARTICULARLY UNDER SECRETARY COOPER WHOM HE KNOWS, BEFORE CIEC MINISTERIAL MEETINGS.
- 2. WE HAVE SUPPORTED IDEA BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IT WILL BE USEFUL FOR WIDJOJO TO HAVE VIEWS OF NEW ADMINISTRATION (AND VICE VERSA) ON NORTH/SOUTH AND ENERGY ISSUES BEFORE RATHER THAN AFTER CIEC. RECENT STATEMENTS BY ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SUGGEST THINKING WELL ENOUGH ADVANCED FOR MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS.
- 3. WHILE LIM BIAN KIE'S MOTIVES MAY WELL BE TO INSURE ADEQUATE RECEPTION AND FRUITFUL TALKS FOR WIDJOJO, I SUSPECT THEY ALSO REPRESENT GENERAL MURTOPO'S DESIRE TO BE PRIMARY CHANNEL FOR ALL HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS AND CONGRESS. AS HELPFUL AS HE HAS BEEN ON MANY MATTERS, I DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO LET THIS HAPPEN. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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I AM NOT SURE, IN LAST ANALYSIS, WIDJOJO WOULD EITHER. MURTOPO, RECOGNIZING WIDJOJO'S IMPORTANCE AND CLOSENESS TO PRESIDENT, HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN SEEKING BETTER RELATIONS WITH HIM. I WOULD IMAGINE WIDJOJO WILL WISH TO CONTINUE PRESERVE HIS INDEPENDENCE.

4. UNLESS DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY DONE SO, I WOULD SUGGEST

BIAN KIE CONVERSATION NOT BE MENTIONED TO RUSMIN. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH RUSMIN, DEPARTMENT MIGHT SAY QUESTION HAD BEEN RAISED AS TO WHETHER LATER TIMING MIGHT NOT BE BETTER, BUT DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED RECEIVE WIDJOJO AT HIS CONVENIENCE. LET RUSMIN DECIDE.

5. IF BIAN KIE RAISES QUESTION HERE, I WOULD PROPOSE SAY TO HIM WE HAD CONSIDERED MATTER OF TIMING, BUT FELT USG POSITION NOW WELL ENOUGH ALONG TO PERMIT USEFUL DISCUSSIONS BEFORE CIEC MEETINGS AND WIDJOJO'S PRESENCE IN NEW YORK FOR U.N. COMMITTEE MEETING PROVIDES EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY.

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